

Patent Claims

1. A method for setting up and updating a user interface for a user to access information pages (IS) in a data network,
5 where selected information pages (IS) are provided by a respective display element on the user interface for access by the user, and the information pages (IS) are respectively accessed by accessing the respective display element, and
10 where the information pages (IS) store contents, characterized
- in that the information pages (IS) have a respective associated content data record (IDS) created for them which stores features describing the respective
15 content stored on the information page (IS),
 - in that the selected information pages (IS) are determined by creating a user data record having features which describe a sought content,
 - 20 - in that the content data records (IDS) are respectively compared with the user data record to determine the degree of match, and
 - in that information pages (IS) for which the degree of match between the respective content data record (IDS) and the user data record achieves and/or
25 exceeds a previously defined threshold are displayed on the user interface by display elements as selected information pages (IS).

2. The method as claimed in patent claim 1,
characterized
in that the selected information pages (IS) are checked
cyclically for their accessibility, and
5 in that in cases in which one of the information pages
checked can no longer be accessed the display element
for this information page (IS) is removed from the user
interface.
- 10 3. The method as claimed in one of the preceding
patent claims,
characterized
in that the comparison is repeated at intervals of
time, and
15 in that the result of the repeated comparison is used
to update the user interface.
4. The method as claimed in one of the preceding
patent claims,
20 characterized
in that the user data record is updated,
in that after the update the comparison is performed
again, and
in that the new comparison result is used to determine
25 the selected information pages again.
5. The method as claimed in one of the preceding
patent claims,
characterized
30 in that content data records are ascertained and stored
by interrogating a database containing content data
records (IDS) and/or by means of a search, and
in that said content data records are used for the
comparison with the user data record.

6. The method as claimed in one of the preceding patent claims, characterized in that each content data record (IDS) and the user data record are respectively created as a structured document, and in that the content data record (IDS) comprises the address of its associated information page (IS).
7. The method as claimed in patent claim 6, characterized in that each content data record (IDS) and the user data record are created in XML format, and in that the structure of the content data records (IDS) and of the user data record is respectively stipulated in a description data record.
8. The method as claimed in either of patent claims 6 and 7, characterized in that the same respective structure is used for the content data records (IDS) and for the user data record.
9. The method as claimed in one of the preceding patent claims, characterized in that the selected information page (IS) which has been used most to date is displayed at a prioritized position on the user interface.
10. The method as claimed in one of the preceding patent claims, characterized in that the selected information page (IS) whose associated content data record (IDS) has the best match with the user data record is displayed at a prioritized position on the user interface.

11. The method as claimed in one of the preceding patent claims,
characterized
in that the information pages (IS) used are web pages,
5 in that the web pages can be accessed using addresses associated therewith,
in that the web pages and the content data records (IDS) are stored on at least one web server (WS), and
in that the content data records (IDS) are retrieved
10 using data record addresses which are respectively associated therewith.

12. The method as claimed in one of the preceding patent claims,
15 characterized
in that the user interface used is an information page in the form of a portal page, and
in that the portal page is provided by a portal server (PRT).

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13. The method as claimed in one of the preceding patent claims,
characterized
in that a proxy server (PXY) is used in the data
25 network,
in that the proxy server (PXY) reads in the information pages (IS) whose associated addresses are transmitted to it, and
in that the proxy server (PXY) buffer-stores the
30 information pages (IS) which have been read in and sends them to the user.

14. The method as claimed in patent claim 13,
characterized
in that the display elements of the selected
information pages (IS) are each in the form of a link
5 which is linked to the address of the respective
selected information page (IS),
in that accessing the link involves the address of the
associated information page (IS) being transmitted to
the proxy server (PXY), and
10 in that the proxy server (PXY) loads this information
page (IS) and sends it to the user.
15. The method as claimed in patent claim 14,
characterized
15 in that transmitting the information page (IS) to the
proxy server (PXY) involves the data record address of
the content data record (IDS) associated with this
information page (IS) likewise being transmitted to the
proxy server (PXY),
20 in that the proxy server (PXY) transmits this data
record address to the user interface,
in that the user interface loads the content data
record (IDS) associated with this data record address
and stores it for the comparison.

16. An arrangement for setting up and updating a user interface for a user to access information pages (IS) in a data network, where

- elements for accessing the information pages (IS) are arranged on the user interface,
 - the data network contains a portal server (PRT) for managing the user interface,
 - the information pages (IS) can each be used to access a content, and the information pages are stored on a web server (WS),
 - the data network contains a proxy server (PXY) which loads the information pages accessed by means of the elements of the user interface from the web server (WS) and sends them to the user,
- characterized in that
- the information pages (IS) have a respective content data record (IDS) stored for them on the web server (WS), said content data record describing the content which can be accessed using the respective information page (IS),
 - in that the content data record (IDS) can be accessed by the portal server (PRT),
 - in that the portal server (PRT) stores a user data record which describes a content sought by the user,
 - in that the portal server (PRT) has a comparison device which compares content data records (IDS) with the user data record to determine the degree of match, and
 - in that the portal server (PRT) is in a form such that information pages (IS) for which the comparison result achieves and/or exceeds a previously defined minimum match are displayed by elements on the user interface.